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General Summary of News.

ASIA.

Calcutta.—On the afternoon of Thursday, at about three o'clock, Two Government Pilot Vessels were launched from the Yard of the Honorable Company's Master Builder, at Kidderpore. The Marquis and Marchioness of Hastings, honored the Launch with their presence, and were attended by many of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Settlement, for whom refreshments were provided, and a convenient spot prepared, from which the Launch of the vessels from the stocks, could be seen to great advantage.

The Brigs had been built on one slip; the first, within a few yards of high water mark, and the other just a-head of her. Both had their royal yards across, and were gaily decorated with flags, so that they appeared in the finest trim.

The first vessel went off at about a quarter past three. She was named in the usual way, by breaking a bottle of wine across the stem, which was done at the moment of her moving, by Commodore Hayes, and after a run of about her own length beyond the space she occupied on the ways, she ploughed the water with her stern in beautiful style, while the subsequent plunging of her bow, showing the whole range of her deck fore and aft, covered as it was with people huzzaing as she floated, added greatly to the effect of the scene.

It was intended, as we understood, if all circumstances had been favourable, that the vessels should not have anchored, but have sailed up the river immediately, to their station abreast of the Bankshall, and as there was a fine leading breeze, this would have been practicable with the sails they had bent, two jibs, and a boom mainsail; but the flood tide running strong, swept the first vessel round, as soon as the velocity with which she first forced her way through the stream had slackened, and giving her a direction on towards the eastern bank, it was necessary to anchor, in order to prevent her touching, which was avoided by this being judiciously done in time.

The second vessel was ready in about a quarter of an hour after the first; and the additional length of run which she would have beyond the other, promised a proportionately finer sight. This expectation was fully realized. By the time she reached the water's edge, the friction of the cradle on the ways, notwithstanding that they were well oiled, occasioned a cloud of smoke to ascend and envelope her stem, (as if by some charm a sudden offering of incense had ascended from the earth to do homage to the figure that graced her head), while the increased velocity with which she divided the mass of water, buried her stern in one white world of foam, and the returning plunge of the bow which was deeper and more violent than the preceding one, gave altogether an effect, the grandeur and beauty of which was felt by every one, and expressed by a general shout of exultation from the shore, re-echoed back by those on board, but which must have been seen to be fully understood, and which it is therefore in vain to attempt to describe.

The illustrious party who had honoured with their presence the Launch of the *Hatras* and *Asseerghur* (for such we understood to be the names given to the vessels) afterwards attended Mr. Kyd, to inspect the Steam-Engine at work in his Dock-yard. With this, the distinguished Visitors expressed themselves highly pleased, and their curiosity was amply gratified by the advantageous manner in which the powers of its mechanism and the ingenious application of them were displayed. It was about four o'clock when the party left the yard, after having, in the short space of an hour, witnessed with feelings of great pleasure, a series of the effects of human skill and labour, which cannot often be crowded into so limited a period.

Madras.—Our Papers from hence extend to the 19th of October, and the Debate on the Vestry Question at the Public Meeting here on the 22d of Sept. is deemed of sufficient interest at that Presidency to be given at length, to the exclusive of almost all other matters, so precious are the merest gleams of liberty when they shine in on the darkness of those who live unblest by its genial influence. Their comments on this freedom of thought and speech would be valuable, if we could hope to obtain them, but alas! this, for some time at least, is not likely to be furnished us with that frankness which stamps a value on opinions and sentiments whether publicly or privately expressed.

The local paragraphs which the latest Papers of Madras, Ceylon, and Bombay furnish us, by yesterday's dawn, we give from them, under their respective dates.

Madras continues extremely gay,—there were no less than three Balls last week, all of which were well attended. There are yet more in preparation for the present and following week, so that the votaries of festive amusement have now the means of gratifying their love of pleasure. Now, during the cool weather, is certainly the time for mirth and festivity.

According to annual custom, the Fort Flag-Staff was struck on Friday the 15th of Oct. and the Shipping have nearly all quitted the Roads—the *Blenheim* and *Pilot*, however, still remain—the latter is loading for England, and we trust the weather will continue sufficiently moderate to allow of her completing her lading, though we understand it is uncertain whether she proceeds before December or not. The appearances of the weather were rather threatening on Friday and Saturday. On the former day, and during the following night, it blew a fresh breeze from the North Westward, accompanied by some rain, but this has all blown over, and the horizon is now clear, foreboding no harm. The temperature is very pleasant.

The prospect held out by the following paragraph, will no doubt give universal satisfaction.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON, MAY 12, 1819.

"There is a possibility, that an entire new arrangement will shortly take place as to the conveyance of letters from hence to India"

The above is an official extract.—*Madras Courier*

Colombo, Oct. 2, 1819.—On Monday last, His Excellency the Governor, Lady Browning, and suite, returned to Colombo from their tour in the Interior Provinces.—Major General Sir Edward Barnes arrived about an hour after His Excellency,—having returned from Koenigswald by way of Kandy and Ruauwelle. The usual Salutes were fired on the occasion.

It is with the greatest pleasure, that we insert in our Columns the following General Order which publishes to the Army in Ceylon the honourable testimony borne to its gallant exertions, during the late rebellion, by His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, and expresses in a manner so satisfactory, His Royal Highness's appreciation of its services and merits.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-quarters, Colombo, September 20, 1819.

The Commander of the Forces feeling, anxiously as he does for the credit of the Army he has the honour to command, has sincere pleasure in publishing for its information, the following Extract of a Dispatch he has received from Major General Sir Henry Torrens, conveying the high and gratifying approbation of The Commander in Chief, of their gallant conduct, through which the efforts of Government to suppress the late Rebellion in the Kandyan Provinces were crowned with final and complete success—the Lieutenant General congratulates the Army on the honourable terms in which His Royal Highness is pleased to appreciate the merit and value of their services.

Extracts from a Dispatch from Major General Sir Henry Torrens K. C. B. dated Horse Guards, 15th April 1819.

The Commander in Chief has perused the Copy of your Dispatch to Earl Bathurst of the 9th October, and, I am commanded to assure you that His Royal Highness is highly sensible of the persevering firmness, with which you have pursued the object of putting down the Kandyan Rebellion; And he has great pleasure in assuring you, that your conduct in the course of the whole arduous struggle, has met with the Prince Regent's entire approbation.

The testimony you bear towards the good conduct of the Officers and Soldiers composing the Force under your Orders, has also been gratifying to the Commander in Chief, and he has not failed to represent your eulogiums as they deserve to the notice and approbation of the Prince Regent.

Your Letter of the 31st October encloses Copies of your Dispatch to Earl Bathurst reporting the termination of the Kandyan Rebellion, and I am commanded to assure you, that the Commander in Chief has received with great satisfaction, the report of the final success which has attended the arduous exertions of yourself and the Force under your Command, in the operations in which they have been so long engaged; His Royal Highness has great pleasure in congratulating you upon this success, and he will submit to the Prince Regent the name of Captain Fraser of the 1st Ceylon Regiment for the Brevet Rank of Major, and he will bear in mind the terms in which you have recommended Lieut. William O'Neil, as opportunities may offer. In the mean while, his promotion to the Lieutenantancy, recently nominated by you, has been confirmed.

The Commander of the Forces is pleased to make the following Appointment in the Army serving in Ceylon, until the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty shall be made known.

73d Regiment.—Serjeant Major Thomas Shoolbraid to be Ensign, vice Mauger deceased, the Serjeant Major's Appointment, vice Lidwell promoted as notified in the General Orders of 7th August 1818 not having been confirmed; dated 15 May, 1819.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Dept. Adj. Genl.

Mauritius Aug. 7 1819.—On Tuesday the 27th July 1819, the 22d Regiment sailed from this Port on board the Transports which were sent to convey them to England. They had served in these Islands since the year 1810, and acquired the esteem and regard of the Inhabitants.—The copy of the General Order issued on their embarkation, and which we have the satisfaction to subjoin, will best speak what their conduct has been, and how duly it has been appreciated in the quarter best qualified to judge and reward their merits.—A Ball was given to Mrs. Dalrymple by the friends of that family—it was honored by the presence of all that was highest in rank, most fascinating in beauty and elegance, and most respectable in character in this Colony.—The regret at parting was sincerely and mutually felt by the Regiment and the Colony, even the anticipations of home could not dispel the gloom which seemed to hang over every individual, as he quitted the shore, on which he left so many friends.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Port Louis, July 22, 1819.—Major General Darling, having completed the inspection of the 22d Regiment, embraces with much satisfaction this opportunity of expressing his opinion of the Corps, previous to its embarkation for England.

The appearance of the men under arms, and their conduct in quarters, evince the regularity of a well organized Corps.

Their appointments and clothing, are all in the best order.

The movements in the Field, were correctly performed; and the duty of the Garrison has been carried on in a very satisfactory manner.

In alluding to their conduct in quarters, with a population composed as this is, and in the midst of temptation to irregularity, the behaviour of the Corps has been exemplary; and the Major General has remarked with pleasure, that during the five months he has had the honor to command here, no complaint has been made against any Individual belonging to it.

The Major General is sensible how much is due to the Officers for the state of the Regiment; and their conduct has, in every respect, met with his entire approbation.

He begs Colonel Dalrymple will accept his warmest acknowledgements for the assistance he has rendered in the command of this Garrison: and for the disposition he has invariably manifested, to promote whatever could tend to benefit the service.

Though the Major General reluctantly parts with this excellent Corps, it is only just, that after such a period of foreign service, they should return home.—He participates, with sentiments of the most friendly regard, in their feelings on this occasion, and sincerely wishes them every success and happiness.

(Signed) E. LINDSAY, Dep. Adj. Gen.

Bombay, Oct. 13, 1819.—During this last week, the arrivals of boats from all parts of the Coast, has given a lively air to the long deserted Custom House at the Muejed Bunder; and the sitting out of the Expedition to the Persian Gulf, now being fully entered on, our little island exhibits a scene of bustle and activity hitherto unparalleled. Cotton comes in very gradually, and the holders continue to demand high prices.

The accounts from Mocha by the last arrival confirm the former reports. A solitary American, (the Saco) remained at Mocha for the purpose of purchasing Coffee, but that cannot be effected until the new crops come in, in November and December.

On Monday morning, minute Guns to the amount of 55, were fired, out of respect to the memory of Anund Row Guicowar, who departed this life on the 8th instant, in the 55th year of his age. Anund Row ascended the Musnud in the year 1800, and has been, since the rebellion of Mulhar Row in 1802, under the especial protection of the British. Anund Row has been for some years incapable of taking any active part in the government, and his brother, Faiteh Sing, who died about a year ago, was a long time Regent; he was succeeded in the Regentship, by his brother, Syjee Row, who now ascends the vacant Musnud.

Lahore.—The Ukhbars mention the arrival of Dewan Chund at Poonja. Some disputes had occurred between the Zemindars of Cashmeer and the conquerors. On that account, Dewan Chund was on his way to Lahore. Many of the Sikh troops had deserted, in consequence of which Runjeet Sing had directed Dewan Motceram, the Nazim of Cashmeer, to place strong guards at all the passes to prevent the diminution of his forces. Peshawar-co-deen has trained a body of Cavalry in the English fashion.

Runjeet Sing has made a present of 20,000 Rupees to the Temple of Akal-kanth, and 5,000 Rupees to Rajah Sarchund, for his services in the conquest of Cashmeer; He has also directed the purchase of 2000 maunds of iron for the purpose of making cannon balls.

Twenty-two men had been severely wounded in trying the new guns at the Arsenal.

Two hundred stone-masons had been sent to Cashmeer, Runjeet Sing having it in contemplation to erect several public buildings in his new province.

The Ukhbars we have received, say nothing of affairs among the Afghans. Shah Shooja is not mentioned.

The Ukhbars give a curious detail of the coronation of Ghaz-co-deen, Padshah, at Lucknow, on the 9th of October. The King, on rising in the morning, proceeded to the palace called *Furukbah*, anxious about the preparations. He directed Omarut Lal to point out the spot where the Company's troops were to be paraded, when they arrived. He then conversed with Nuwab Matmud-co-Doulah, and soon afterwards arrayed himself in splendid robes, covered with jewels. Thirty-three gentlemen being announced in waiting at the Lal purda Gate, the Shah requested them to approach. His retinue was then called, and he repaired to the Durgah of Usrut Abbas Allee to perform the customary prayer. On his return, the Shah distributed large sums in charity. Breakfast being ready, the Resident, General Marshall, and all the Ladies and Gentlemen of Lucknow were invited to partake of refreshments. The Shahzade Mirza Wulee-ahud then led the way to the Baradurree, the place prepared for the ceremony. The Shah, having performed a prayer, put on the "kingly-crown" and placed himself on the throne. The Resident and Wulee-ahud, were seated on his right, and the General on his left, and the other Gentlemen stood round the throne. Mahommed Hussain Khan and others took the Morchula, and Nuwab Matmud-co-Doulah and Mohsun-co-Doulah scattered flowers composed of pearl and gold over the King.* A salute of twenty-one guns was immediately fired, and presents distributed to an immense amount. In the evening a party, consisting of eighty gentlemen, was invited to supper. [Govt. Gaz.

* The gorgeous East with richest hand
Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold.—Milton.

Earthquake at Porebunder.

To the Editor of the Bombay Gazette,

SIR

The Earth's tremors had discontinued at this port for about twenty days, but were again experienced on the past Autumnal Equinox, a period of three months and seven days from the first shock of the late Earthquake.

The Equinox was attended with more rain, thunder, and lightning, than I have witnessed at this port, at the same period, for the last ten years.

This change in the season, was accompanied on the 22d, 23d and 24th instant, by midnight earth-tremors. These ceased with the equinoctial storm.

At 8 p. m. on the 24th instant, there was a strange sound in the air, resembling the near and rapid flight of twenty or thirty strong winged pigeons, but of a somewhat stronger sound; succeeded by sudden gusts of wind from the west. There is something awful in these strange sounds.

Admonitions had been sent forth from the Temple and the Mosque, for the last month past, warning the Hindoos and the Musulmans, that if previous to the Equinox, they did not repent, abstain from sin, and perform acts of charity, the Earth would open at the Equinox, and swallow up the guilty.

When the time appointed arrived, when the terrific lightning came, which penetrated the wall of a house; when the near and heavy thunder roared, the earth trembled, a strange sound was in the air, and the dark clouds sent forth their waters, there were some Sons of Plutus, I am told, whose feelings were not to be envied. I believe the generality of the inhabitants were tolerably composed.

VERAX's letter of the 20th ultimo, induces me to be more circumstantial on some parts of what I witnessed of the past Earthquake.

The first personal feeling which I had of the phenomena, was, while standing on the rampart, attending to the distant sound which came from sea-ward, when I felt a smart shock on the soles of my shoes, it seemed to come up perpendicularly from the earth through the whole height of the wall of masonry, which was seventeen feet, and it alone caused me, instantaneously to exclaim, "An Earthquake, by G.—!!!" I cannot bring to my recollection when I ever before made use of such an exclamation! it is however evident, that what I felt of the perpendicular shock (for so I may be permitted to call it) impressed me with awe for the cause, and apprehension for its effects.

The second object of my attention, or the vibrating motion of the parapet, has already been minutely described; it was by far the most violent and awful part of the phenomena.

By a horizontal motion, as relative to Earthquakes, I understand, the removing an object horizontally, from one place to another; nothing of this nature has fallen under my observation, though every object attracts the attention, which is not found in the same situation as it was previous to the great shock.

I have reason to believe, that the Earthquake here, was of a whirling nature, in a small degree, for I find an upper stone of the parapet, about seven inches square, has had its side turned to the front, or half turned round. This circumstance attracted my attention two days after the Earth-

quake. I cannot possibly say, that it was effected by the Earthquake, though I imagine it was. The vibrating motion would have sufficiently opened the works, which are made of square stones, to admit of one of the stones being whirled on its own centre. The stone may have been forced out of its place, and replaced with a wrong front, by any person passing by, though this is less probable, than that it was whirled by the Earthquake.

The Earthquake had different effects at different places. At Bhoj the shock of the 16th of June, instantly caused "giddiness of the head, and sickness of the stomach," but here, those unpleasant sensations were not felt, until after the slighter shock of the 17th, when probably our ground first commenced its continued heaving or rolling motion.

The only feelings which I experienced on the 16th of June, were awe and curiosity. The scene was appalling, but it did not appal.

I remain, your humble servant,

C. W. ELWOOD.

Porebunder, Sept. 27, 1819.

Tygers on Trees,

To the Editor of the Madras Courier.

SIR, If the enclosed is considered worthy of insertion in your Paper, I request it may find a corner in the next publication.

Whilst on a visit at Mangalore, and at a Party now and then given on a hill called the Cudry, I was shewn the spot where a Cheeta of the largest kind had been killed about nine months back, by one or two Gentlemen and a peon.

The day after our return, the same peon who resides at the foot of the hill, reported, that a Tiger had killed a Cow and had carried more than half the carcase up a large tree, lodging the remains across a forked branch. As explained, the fact appeared incredible, although numerous instances of Tygers concealing themselves in trees have come to my knowledge.

I was prevented going to the spot, to clear up all doubts, until the fourth day. After squeezing through a thick jungle in one of the beautiful dells which mark the picturesque scenery of Cudry, we came to the tree.

It measured 18 feet to the branch where the Cow had been lodged, for from its putrid state it had fallen into a thick bush below, where the head and legs and greater part of the skin lay suspended in its branches. The bark of the tree was perforated with the animals claws at regular distances—and the deep rents in some parts, clearly demonstrated the exertion it must have used, to secure its prey in this singular method.

The fact of more than half the carcase being lodged on the tree, was satisfactorily ascertained from several of the ryots. The Tiger did not return during the interval from his lodging his prey, to my visit, having been disturbed by a Shickarry, who on the second morning effected a lodgment on an opposite tree with the intent to shoot him. A whelp was however seen in the evening of the second day, close to the tree, and it is not improbable, the object of the Tiger was to secure the Cow from the rapacious cravings of her whelps or from jackals.

I believe it is a received opinion, that Tygers will not devour putrid flesh. What its ulterior object therefore, (unless my conjecture be the most probable) in securing it as already stated, could be, others of your sporting readers may consider it worthy of their leisure to investigate and report.

It should be stated, that the Cow is of a small breed peculiar to Canara. The tree is one foot and a quarter in circumference.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Camp in the Western
Ghauts, October 4, 1819.

Excursions in Africa,

From the Establishment of the Missionaries, where the Narrative of yesterday closed, towards Plattenberg's Bay.

When I left the Cape, I had determined on endeavouring to purchase a waggon, with two spare yoke oxen, and proceed to the interior of the country; but, finding the expence would be very great, I gave up the plan. I left all my boxes, guns, &c. with B. and purchasing a poney for my guide, fixed a portmanteau to his and my saddle, and at noon of the 6th of May, set off for Plattenberg's Bay, a journey of upwards of three hundred miles from the Baths, accompanied only by my guide; who speaking nothing but Dutch, several days elapsed before we could understand each other.

We at first went nearly east, but as we passed the farms of Messrs. Wessel, Pass, and Torrès, inclined to the north; the road was good, and wound over waving hills. In about an hour further, we arrived at the farm of John Theunissen, in sight of the Zonder-end river. He begged me to get off; and to stay the remainder of the day with him, which I gladly agreed to, having travelled twenty miles.

There were several estates in the neighbourhood, all belonging to the Theunissenes. The old man came from Holland, and was 73, and his wife 65; they had the satisfaction of having three sons on farms near them, married and respected, and their daughters happily settled.

His wife gave me the following receipt for making Belton, a well known provision in common use in Africa, and preferable to tongue or Ham. Cut long thick slices of meat from the leg of an ox, rub well into them and lay them in a tub of salt for two days. Take them out—and press for two days: then hang them up in the kitchen chimney to be smoked. In a few days they are ready, no dressing is necessary, but just cut off some thin slices. Venison also makes excellent Belton.

17th.—After breakfast, I pursued my journey, and in three hours and half arrived at Ecksteer's, after passing the prettily situated farms of Linden at Lenne Kraul, Harman's at Droven Boom, N. Linden's at Tyger-hook. Here the Zonder-end mountain suddenly diminished in height, and ran along in a range of low hills, and the Berg (mountain) of Zwellender appears in view. You now pass Knodlock, Apple's Krawl, &c. then come to Vander-wat's Krawl belonging to Ecksteer. These picturesque estates on your right hand, and the river Zonder-end on your left, and its lofty mountains beyond it, with the Zwellenburg Bay in front, form a beautiful view.

At dark I arrived at Humans, distant from Theunissen's about 23 miles, just before reaching which we lost sight of the Zonder end river. My bed room was in the store-room with the sons of the family, and all night I was so bitten by fleas, that as soon as it was 4 o'clock I dressed by candle light, and making my host a present, departed, with a determination not to stop here again on my return.

19th. The road now became hilly, but in about three hours, the Brede (Broad) river came in view; the Zonder end river here mixes its waters with those of the Brede, and as it has its rise in the mountains near Tranche Hook, the name Zonder end (without end) is not at all applicable.

The Brede river being full, we were obliged to go along its banks till we came to the port or ferry boat, which is similar to their waggons, level at each end and fastened to a thick rope tied to stakes on each side the river, this running along the side of the boat through rollers, one man is sufficient to push it across though loaded with a waggon, two bullocks, and my two horses.

In half an hour from the river I arrived at Zwellenden, distant from Human's 22 miles. The town has a very pretty appearance, the white houses and the range of mountains at the back, and the cultivated lands around, appearing from the distance like gardens, strike the eye of a traveller, especially an Indian, and one used to the flats of Bengal.

I rode up to the Landrost, Mr. B's house, to whom I had letters of introduction, but found he was out in his tents some miles off. I was directed to the house of the Field Cornet, a name given to the Officer who carries into effect the orders of the Landrost, and who in the Dutch time raised the farmers in the neighbourhood and headed them against the Kaffers.

They are expected to entertain all travellers, who also must report themselves to them. The Cornet, Peter Tonte, was also from home, but his wife and sister, two very pretty women, especially the latter welcomed me in Dutch, and the Landrost's servant, who had conducted me here, spoke English, so that I explained all my wants.

As it was necessary to make arrangements for my future progress, I begged the servants to hire me two horses, my own being too fatigued to go on. A relation of my hostess now came in, and as he spoke a little English, I contrived to keep up a kind of conversation until the horses arrived, together with a guide, when I was told, that the Landrost was not more than an hour and a half distance off.

We kept along the range of the Zwellendam Bing, till we arrived at a steep descent and a Kloof on the opposite side. In about three hours after starting, we saw two small tents, and riding up to them, found Mr. B. who in the politest manner did every thing I required; gave me a route for my journey, and a general order to the farmers in his district to give me every assistance, though he strongly advised me to give up the trip, which would, on many accounts, be unpleasant, if not dangerous. I was not, however, in a state of mind to attend to any friendly advice on this head, so that at 3 p. m. I took leave of him for my return to his house, preparatory to my journey.

Soon after we set out, the horses shewed they could not carry us back to Zwellendam, and we were actually obliged to dismount and drive them up the Kloof for several miles; and when we remounted, we could not get them out of a trot. My guide fortunately came by a much nearer road back again through the valley, close under the Bing. I was exceedingly tired on my arrival, having been full ten hours on horseback since the morning. I found two gentlemen with our hostess at dinner, and both of them spoke English. My fatigue induced me to leave them and retire to rest.

19.—The horses being much fatigued, and the road before described to be hilly and bad, I deemed it advisable to purchase a third horse to carry the portmanteau. It rained all this day, so that I determined on staying the morrow also.

At 3 p. m. I went to dine with the Secretary to the Landrost, who with his wife made the day pass away pleasantly. He had been at Chinsurah, in Bengal, when that place was in possession of the Dutch, and greatly preferred India to Africa. He told me, that corn and a small quantity of cattle were the only articles of trade in the district. He then described the different modes of land-tenure, and lamented on the farmers' account, the abolition of the slave trade, as slaves are for the most part the cultivators of the land.

The Hottentots are averse to labour, require high wages, and their number is comparatively few. They were very numerous when the Dutch about a century ago established themselves here; but from a mistaken policy they were early driven by degrees out of South Africa. No encouragement was given to an increase of population, for they were not permitted to settle in numbers, nor to keep their former flocks and herds. The Dutch now, however, see their error.

The few Hottentots that remain cannot, under our Government, be forced to labor, and require from the Boers from a half six dollar per day besides their food and drams. The non-importation of slaves has increased their value tenfold, and five thousand dollars is now not an unusual price for a useful one. The consequence is, that the poorer farmers are now obliged to do every thing almost for themselves. I have often found but one Hottentot to cook and perform the menial offices, the Boer and his children ploughing, sowing, and even leading their own oxen. The front pair of a span of oxen in a waggon are always led, and it is considered the lowest occupation, it is therefore very distressing to those who are obliged to do it.

As far as I have been able to judge, the slaves in Africa are by no means that unhappy ill-treated race of beings, that those of the West Indies are described to be. Here they are generally well clothed, always well-fed, have high spirits, and appear to be a sort of privileged servants, talking with the greatest familiarity to their masters, and mistresses. Their children are always brought up with those of the house, and appear to enjoy every thing in common with them; As they grow up, they are taught different trades: the females household occupations, and males to be wagoners, mechanics, &c.

After their masters day's work is finished, they are allowed to work on their own account, and with their savings they in time purchase their freedom. That there are instances of brutality towards them, there can be no doubt, and sometimes indeed when a poor fellow has purchased his liberty his master afterwards denies it, and sells him again. Such monsters are to be found in every country, but I am of opinion, that generally speaking, the slaves in South Africa are well-treated.

The town of Zwelendani is situated similarly to that of Gracedale, and resembles Stellenbosch in appearance. A stream called the Corn Land River, runs through it, and there is a small neat Chapel near; the wines, which are very bad, are made by the neighbouring farmers, who find a moderate sale for all they manufacture, so that no endeavours are made to improve the quality of them.

28.—At sunrise I set off on my journey, but I had not gone many yards, before my new purchased horse showed me pretty plainly by his kicking and plunging, that he would not carry the portmanteaus, so that I made Gasper exchange and mount him. In about an hour, we crossed the Buifd Yaeth's River, a clear stream; the road was good, and wound round the Zwelendani Berg.

At 10 we arrived at a farm house, where the horses were to be baited. The owner was unfortunately out, but some Hottentot women gave me a supply of bread, butter, and milk, and as I had tea with me I made a good breakfast, after which I re-mounted.

On leaving the bed of the Karmemelko River, which was now quite dry, we passed on, and soon afterwards, crossed the Slang River, a dirty stream, then the Davenuck's river, which was a clear one, and deeper than the former though still fordable. On its banks is the farm of Daniel Torres.

The Grotfather's (grandfather's) Bosch's (woody) Beng, and the Plat Kloof, now headed the road, and at four we arrived at Peter Du Prie's farm, on the Krombuck's river, distant from Zwelendani about forty miles. I was glad to remain here during the night, as I was pleased with the appearance of the family, which consisted of a fine handsome old man, a respectable old lady, and several grown up sons and daughters. The old couple had been married forty years, and had five sons and three daughters.

In addition to the hospitality of their humble board, which I gladly shared, I was very thankful to my good old host for offering to take care of one of my horses that had been hurt, and lending me another to go as far as the next farm, where I could procure a substitute.

22.—I was awakened about five this morning by my venerable entertainers chaunting a hymn, and after rewarding them for their kindness to me, I left them early.

We crossed the Krombuck's river immediately after leaving the house, which was soon after six o'clock, and in an hour afterwards we arrived at a valley, where I first saw the appearance of shrubs. This led us to the Craker Kloof, a steep ascent, from the summit of which we had a fine view of the surrounding country.

We now wound round the foot of the hills, passed two farms, and shortly before nine arrived at the Fat River, the largest stream we had yet crossed; a few hundred yards from it is the house of Jacobus du Prie's son of the old man we had just quitted.

We rode to the house and unsaddled the horses, as we had come a distance of fifteen miles in a short time. It was here, that I first followed the Dutch hours for meals, by dining at 11 o'clock, which I found to agree with me better than our English ones. After dinner a Bosch's woman came in; she was scarcely four feet high, had a Chinese face, was naked from the waist upwards, and altogether a most disgusting object. She said, that as I was a stranger she must kiss me, and came running up to embrace me when I darted out of the door to the great amusement of the farmers who were present.

My host hesitated in either selling or hiring a horse in exchange for the one his father had lent me, however, at last he supplied me with a miserable animal at a dollar a day with an agreement to pay him fifty dollars if I did not bring it back, and five dollars as an advance of the hire.

The road from the Baths thus far had been very good; but it now became unpleasant for travelling on, as we had to pass over a continuation of hills. These were covered with the aloe plant; which grows from one to eight feet high, and has the leaves large and thick, like the pine apple plant.

We were two hours before we came on a tolerable level country, when Onk Krawl, the farm of Legrance, came in sight. This is just half way between the house we had left, and Snyman's, and here the horses should have been rested; but we went on, and gradually ascended till we came to a fine plain, and in two hours arrived at the farm of Tiger Sontain, belonging to Cornelius Snyman who, with his wife, received me very kindly. In the conversation which ensued, Old Snyman was speaking very highly of the English Government.

23.—It was late before Snyman awoke me this morning, but when I set off I promised the old couple not to pass on my return without stopping with them. The road again improved, and in half an hour we came up to the house of Mr. Darhouse. In an hour further, we came amongst a collection of hills, and ascending a very steep one, saw the Gauritz or Gous river, as it is pronounced, rolling along in a broad stream at the bottom. We descended a winding path leading towards it, at every step of which new beauties came in view.

The scene was wild and grand beyond description. The false river here joins the Gauritz. On its bank was the miserable house of Sourman, and on the opposite bank of the Gauritz, is the farm of Encaas Myera, to which we waded over through the stream. This river, by receiving in its course the waters of many other streams very often from rain or the melting of the snow on the mountains, rises many feet in the course of a few hours, and waggons are often delayed on its banks until it again falls; many who have hazarded crossing it, have been overturned. This river is the boundary of the Zwelendani and George's Districts.

A miserable breakfast was produced, and indeed misery was so visible in all around, that though it threatened rain, I determined on proceeding forward. We had now again to ascend and descend several hills, covered with the aloe plant. After passing them, we turned southerly, and had a good road, seeing the sea for the first time, about three hours distance to the right.

We came up to the house of Field Cornet Batto, in about three hours. The family were all engaged picking wheat, and though these were also a miserable looking set, they cheerfully gave me what they could supply, namely, some belton, bread, butter, and milk. The distance of this place is 15 miles from the Gauritz river.

After the horses had had an hour's rest, we continued on our journey and arrived in the evening at the house of Michael Myers, where I was to stay the night. The frow was the only person at home. She was a very fine woman, and was now in an interesting situation, weeping over a sick child, who was in a high fever. I now first regretted not having been able to bring my medicine chest, as she had no medicines of any kind except an old ball of Rhubarb. Few of the farmers either have or know the use of medicine. Nature is left totally unassisted by Art, yet the deaths in South Africa are, comparatively speaking, few, and you constantly see people far advanced in life, possessing all their faculties in perfection. It remains to be proved, however, whether they would not even be healthier and live longer, if medical advice could be had more frequent recourse to.

May 24.—We did not leave Heel back valley, until 9 this morning, as my host told me that the tide would prevent our soon crossing the Kleine Braacke. In about 20 minutes, we came up to it, and crossed it easily, and soon after ascended a hill from whence we had a fine view of the sea, and the coast terminating on the east by a projecting land, round which Mossel Bay was said to be about two hours' ride.

We now met some waggons, and were told that the waters of the Giste Braacke river were higher than the horses. We hoped, however, that they had crossed at high water, and went on till we arrived in an hour and a quarter, on the banks, the sea being in sight on our right.

Gasper rode in first, leading the baggage horses. The animals were soon obliged to swim; but my horse being taller, just kept his legs, the water coming up to the saddle.

We had now to ascend a very steep hill, and on gaining the summit had a fine view of the surrounding country and of the sea to the right of it. We galloped over the downs here, and in three hours came to the small farm called Houw Krawl. The family were out, but two Hottentot women kindly allowed me to share their pot of sheep's-head broth; on which with some coarse bread and sheep's tail butter, I made as hearty a meal as I ever remember.

It is the custom in Africa, after riding 3 or 4 hours, to take off the horse's saddle and bridle, and tying down his head with the halter to one of his fore legs, to let him graze, and roll on the ground; this gulling greatly recovers them, and they never catch cold, which, when put in a stable, and rubbed down they are very apt to do.

After my horses had been refreshed in this manner, called in Dutch *Kannekaldar*, we proceeded on our journey. The road became again hilly, and crossing the Klip River, we had to ascend a hill, across which logs of wood were laid as steps, and the rains having washed away the intervening mould, the horses with difficulty got up over them. Soon after we crossed

the Guinona River, when George's Drosdy, a pretty collection of white houses, under a gloomy range of hills, came in sight; and in rather more than five hours from Heel Back Valley, a distance (as we rode fast) of about 30 miles, we arrived at the house of the Landrost Mr. A. G. Van Kervel.

He was not himself at home, but arrived soon after. In the interim I had a long conversation with a French Police Officer, who quitted Paris in 1793, he looked exceedingly like one of the Revolutionists. Mr. V. a fine respectable looking old man, welcomed me in English, and I with pleasure learnt, that he had been for 12 years in Bengal, in the service of the Dutch East India Company; he was for some time Resident at Patna, and often resided at the Saltpetre Factory at Singhea, where I had also myself lived for a considerable period. We consequently had an interesting conversation, and I was surprised at his accurate remembrance of places and customs, and even at his still speaking a little Hindoostanee, for he quitted Bengal in 1785. He told me, that he preferred India to any country he had ever been in, not excepting his native land, Holland.

The district of George, so called after our august Sovereign was established some few years ago by Lord Caledon; it is beautifully situated under George's mountains, formerly called Outeniquias. Extensive plains, as far the eye can reach, are in front; mountains losing themselves in the cloud in the rear, and on the right is the sea, at about an hour's ride. I cannot imagine a more beautiful situation for a village than this. To the N. W. of the Drosdy is a beautiful spot of ground, just at the commencement of the forests, which from hence run down with more or less interruption, till they meet the woods of the Litticamma.

On this spot Mr. V. intends building a house. The Vit (white) Fountain, rises in the neighbouring wood, and from it the house will be named. The quantity of water it supplies will serve for all the purposes of agriculture, and the ground is said to be very good.

25.—After dinner this evening we went to a Hottentot Krawl, where a Christian Hottentot (who had been converted by the Missionaries), resided, and every night collected the Hottentots of the town, and read a chapter of the bible to them, and exhorted those who were not Christians to become so. They were singing a hymn when we arrived; the voices of the women were particularly sweet, and those of the men strong and good, and the whole picture was a most agreeable one.

A CIVILIAN.

Bengal Military Fund.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Having accidentally perused a Letter addressed to the Officers of the Bengal Army, proposing the Institution of a Fund, to be denominated "THE BENGAL MILITARY FUND," I could not help making the following reflections upon the occasion; namely, that such an Institution must be highly desirable to all parties; and that the advantages which would accrue from it, would be almost incalculable.

How often, Sir, do we see it the case, that men, from not having been prudent in making some little provision to enable them, in case of severe illness, to pay a visit to their Native Country, fall sacrifices to the effects of an enervating climate, and regret, when it is too late, their own supineness! If such a Fund as the one proposed was established, the life of many a poor Brother Soldier would be saved. Add to this, the desirable advantages of a certain provision for our Wives and Children, at a very moderate expence. I think such considerations cannot fail to act irresistibly upon every man who is not possessed of a more than common share of apathy, and make him wish to establish so desirable an Institution.

Yet, notwithstanding all this, such is the indolence of human nature, that altho' each Individual who may read Lieutenant McNAGHTEN'S Letter, will probably highly approve of the proposal, and would be very ready, if called upon, to give a vote in favor of it, yet if not solicited to do so, will vainly regret that it has failed to attract notice, and thus will the matter rest.

Now, Mr. Editor, to prevent such a proposal as this, fraught with so many advantages to the community at large, from falling to the ground, why might not a Letter be issued from the Adjutant General's Office, addressed to the Commanding Officers of posts and stations, to circulate amongst those under their immediate command,* for the purpose of obtaining Votes upon the question, and if it should appear (which I have not the smallest doubt would be the case) that a sufficient number favored the proposal to ensure its success, let it then be acted upon immediately. There would, I imagine, be little difficulty in appointing managers, and making all other necessary arrangements.

Should you think the above suggestions worthy of being made public through your excellent Journal, you will oblige, by their insertion,

Mitra, Oct. 22, 1819. AN ENEMY TO PROCRASTINATION.

P. S. I cannot help expressing my admiration of Lieut. Macnaghten's sentiments, regarding the claims of Half-cast Children and Widows, to participate in the benefits of the Fund; they do equal honor to him as Soldier, a Man, and a Christian.

It is not for mortals to visit the sins of the Father upon the Children.

* This, we believe, was the mode adopted in the Madras Army, and effectually secured the Establishment of that Fund; it is the mode followed also, on all similar occasions, where the wishes of the Army with respect to any measures of this description, in which they are all interested, are requisite to be known.—En.

Madras Army.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

It is gratifying to the Armies of the three Presidencies, collectively; (for the feeling is as general as it is sincere) to witness the hitherto admirable use which has been made of the benevolent intentions of our excellent Commander in Chief, in permitting the free and frank discussion of all subjects connected with the improvement of the Indian Army;—enquiries into their Moral and Military character;—the bearing of certain laws and regulations, as it affects both Officers and Men, the due administration of Military Justice;—and in short, all that is dear and valuable to us as Soldiers as well as Britons, for we too (and Heaven forbid that it should be otherwise) have our rights, our privileges, and our interests, the preservation of which is so far from being detrimental to good Military discipline, that the due observance of them, is perhaps the surest safeguard of the attachment, the respect, and the faithful discharge of duty, both from Officers and Men.

You will pardon my saying thus much, but I have thought it the more necessary to let you know the feeling that prevails in this quarter, as I perceive with regret, and some mixture of astonishment, that a very contrary impression has been attempted to be given—I will not say by whom—of the probable effects of thus unlocking the stores of Military knowledge, and inducing Officers to consult and compare opinions on points of duty and points of information essential to be understood by all.

My object, however, was to offer you a piece of brief but perhaps useful information, on the chances of life, and consequently of promotion, in the Madras Army, as gathered from sources within my reach, which may be relied on for accuracy; and though the details necessary to be gone through, in order to arrive at this result, are necessary very voluminous, the substance of it may be given in the following short paragraph:—

In a period of the last six years, the Casualties by Death amongst the Officers of the Madras Army, who held the rank specified underneath, on the 1st of October, 1813, have been as follows:—

Amongst	150	Field Officers	Deaths	42
.....	253	Captains	.....	53
.....	615	Lieutenants	.....	128
.....	181	Ensigns, Cornets, &c.	.....	33

Amongst the Field Officers less than a third has perished,—more than a fifth of the Captains—upwards of a fifth of the Lieutenants—and more than a sixth of the Cornets, Fireworkers, and Ensigns.

Your's, &c.

SENEX.

Nagpoor, Oct. 16, 1819.

Moral and Military Character.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

Sir,

The Officer who signs himself, AN ADJUTANT OF BENGAL CAVALRY, has composed a most excellent account of the Moral and Military Character of our Sepoys; and which, as far as my knowledge of them (and I have a little experience in that way,) enables me to judge, is perfectly just and applicable, except in two instances. He accuses them of being avaricious, but this idea, must have arisen from his not being aware of the exceedingly large sums annually remitted to his Parents, or his Family, by the Hindoo Sepoy. The privations which he voluntarily undergoes, to effect this laudable and benevolent purpose, are such as only those can believe who actually witness them; and we know, that Government has thought it right, even now to interpose its authority in order to prevent the Sepoys from bestowing too much of their Pay upon their Relations, when proceeding as Volunteers on Foreign Service, and thereby depriving themselves of the means of procuring indispensable necessaries in a foreign land. Their being, therefore, apparently penurious, is creditable to them, and should not be noticed in terms of reproach; any more than the superior dashing appearance of the Mussulman, (in his undress) should be extolled, when we know,

it frequently proceeds from his being what is termed a *loochur*. For my own part, however, I have not often noticed this economical appearance, even in those who lay up the half of their Pay for the benevolent purpose above mentioned; for the Hindoo Sepoy is almost always extremely neat and clean in his undress; and often looks better in that, than in his Regiments; so that I am at a loss to discover wherefore your Correspondent has attributed to them, the disgusting vice of avarice. Depend upon it, Sir, he has treated these brave and worthy fellows too harshly in this instance; and so he has in the following, though perhaps unwittingly,

He says, "their most prominent vice is Falsehood;" this is a term which imports an uncommon degree of moral turpitude, and comprehends a variety of wickedness besides merely telling a lie, and I perceive clearly enough, that your Correspondent does not mean to use it in that comprehensive sense, because he applies it throughout to a mere verbal lie; But then there is an implied lie, and a breach of trust, and other kinds of treachery, all of which are included in the term Falsehood, which is indeed an exceedingly harsh and powerful word, and not at all applicable in this instance, as I

shall endeavour to show; though I trust there are not many of your Military Readers who consider my so doing very necessary. But I should wish to prevent people out of the Service from judging of a Sepoy's moral character by that of his own servants, as many are apt to do from the vulgar notion, that "Black fellows are all alike, or all rogues," or some similar sweeping expression.

The Bengal Army differs from that of every other State, in the men who compose it, being the choice and pick (to use a technical term) of the population, and not the refuse of it, as are the lower ranks of all other Armies, in a greater or less degree. But the Natives of India are not taught in their childhood to hold a lie in that abhorrence in which we hold it; and we can hardly expect, that if the 'young idea' be 'taught to shoot' in a wrong direction, the man will prove more virtuous than the boy. After all, a Sepoy will only prevaricate when he has a personal interest in the affair at issue, and even then, I have frequently known the old and respectable Sepoys confess the whole truth to an Officer whom they loved and respected; and I have seldom found their habit of lying productive of much inconvenience, for they practice it so artlessly, that the least degree of examination never fails to detect it. A Native cannot tell a good lie, as a European can, nor do they appear ashamed of it when discovered; this is not from natural shamelessness, but from the notion that the lie does not throw any disgrace upon their moral character; and on the same account they are never scouted and shunned by their Comrades, nor deprived of *Caste*, for that fault, as they are for many others of a much less immoral nature. A Sepoy will never prove false to his trust, will never betray his Officer, or do any thing in the shape of falsehood, except what I have mentioned; and my opinion of a Native lie is, that it is far from being so criminal as a European one, which is in general artful and well managed, evincing thereby an uncommon degree of depravity in the person guilty of it.

Your Correspondent's Letter, is in all other respects correct, and well written throughout; both of which make it very creditable to himself and honourable to the class of men who are the subjects of it.

I am Sir, Your's, &c.

Calcutta, Nov. 5, 1849. AN ADJUTANT OF BENGAL INFANTRY.

To Centurion.

"Adoloseenti nihil est, quod succenseat." TER.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I read in your Paper of Thursday last, another letter from CENTURION, and I read it even with pleasure, but without being commended. I admire his motives, which are pure and independent, and I admire his character, in as far as I am acquainted with it, which, however, I grieve to say, is only by his Letters; for to the best of my knowledge, I am not personally known to him. I told you, Sir, in a former Letter, that my real name having become somewhat generally known, I was induced to discontinue all further communications under my present signature; and I did expect to have been able to act accordingly. Where, however, charges are made, and commentaries published, which are *fundamentally erroneous*, it is not justifiable in the accused to stand mute, particularly in a case of this important nature, in which so many people are concerned, and the whole Bengal Army, more or less interested.

CENTURION says, he has read my Letter on the Army—I say he has not read it *attentively*, for if he had, his observations would have been differently worded. I shall prove his inaccuracy presently, but just now I must, as a preparatory step, *egotise* a little by way of general explanation. I have made it a rule always to speak what I think and *believe* to be true, if I give an opinion at all; and to deliver that opinion, whether *pro* or *con*, in terms as applicable to the subject as the little acquaintance I have with my own language will enable me to furnish. Hence it is, that I speak mildly on one subject, and severely on another, just as I think it necessary; and CENTURION can hardly mean to say, that one *tone* will answer every occasion; no matter whether we reprehend a *faulty* Institution, or recommend a *benevolent* one. In what I saw of the Bengal Army, I perceived many faults, or what I considered faults, and I endeavoured to bring them under the notice of those whose province it was to rectify them, if they were found to exist. This, as an Officer, I conceived it my duty to do in some way or other, if I have adopted a wrong method, it is at the worst but an error of judgment into which we are all liable at times to fall; for "*Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit.*" Where a fault does exist, it is necessary for us to speak of it in *severe* terms, and to set forth the bad effects which result from it, otherwise it is allowed to pass by us "like the idle wind which we regard not." We find, therefore, that in all controversies and debates, terms are used to reprobate an evil, stronger perhaps than what he who applies them thinks the thing deserves;—but attention is attracted by strong language, and in the end no greater severity is made use of, than appears actually requisite. The Bar affords numerous instances of this kind of exaggeration, which, however, I do not much admire, nor can I be said, in the present instance, to have been guilty of it, if the evils I pointed out do really exist;—that they do, remains to be proved, as well as that they do not. If I have not *swear*ed the faults I mention—if it be found that there are grounds for my assertions,—surely no criminality can attach itself to me for making them public, even if I have reprobated them too

strongly; for the love of Justice and of the Army, which led me to notice them at all, made me likewise indignant at the bare idea of them.

CENTURION accuses me of having passed a severe and unmerited censure on the great body of the Officers of this Army; and here he is *radically* wrong. As a body, I respect and esteem the Bengal Officers, and as individuals I love them, as far as my acquaintance reaches; it is not therefore, likely, that I should severely and unjustly censure them, either directly or indirectly. That I have not done so, I shall immediately prove beyond a doubt; and in doing this I must first examine the ground upon which CENTURION builds his assertion; an assertion which conveys, I will say, a most severe and unmerited censure upon me.

CENTURION has completely misconceived my meaning—for I know he has not willfully erred, though he has done so most widely—and it is most probable, that on meeting with the disappointment he mentions on reading that Letter, after the one on the Military Fund, he has paid the less attention to its contents, and run over them in a hasty, and perhaps peevish manner; but this I am perfectly sure of, that if I convince him of his mistake, he will candidly acknowledge it, as, upon my honor, I should do in like circumstances. I can very readily fancy his disappointment and I give him credit for it—arising as it did from the difference of the *sentiments* expressed in the two Letters; and I can assure him, that I felt far greater pleasure when writing in *propria persona*, than when doing so, under a feigned signature;—for finding fault is never a pleasant amusement, unless to some Timon who could even hate himself for being a human creature. But at the same time I must say, there often exists a strong necessity for blame to be thrown, sometimes upon things and sometimes upon persons connected with public affairs of every description, Civil as well as Military;—and if an evil is known to exist, and he who discovers it keeps his knowledge a secret, I maintain he does more injury to the body in which it lies, than did those who first planted it there; for,

"Alitur vitium, vitique, legendo."—VIRG.

It was, at least, this idea (whether it be right or wrong) that induced me to make public mention of those parts of our Military Economy, which I considered defective, and which no one else seemed inclined to expose, though many besides myself were sensible of their existence. 'Tis true, I could have written a larger, and no doubt more agreeable a volume, *in praise* of the Army; and so I have mentioned in the commencement of my Letter to the Marquis of Hastings, but my so doing would not be productive of half the good which would accrue from even *one* of the defects which I have pointed out being remedied; and I therefore resolved upon acting in the manner I deemed the most beneficial with regard to that Army of which I feel a pride in calling myself a member.

Returning from this somewhat unintentional digression, I now hasten to join issue with CENTURION. He first objects to my assertion, that the prisoner has not the option of challenge given him before a Minor Court Martial. Now in concluding my remarks on the mode of trial, I have distinctly stated, that I have not mentioned any circumstance, of which I was not at various times an eye-witness; and when I say, that I have seen so and so, I consider my assertion quite sufficient to support itself without the aid of subsequent argument. If I had said, that I *thought* such was the case, then indeed, it would have been necessary for me to have adduced at least circumstantial proofs of its really being so. Here, however, I say, that what I have related I have *seen*, and that I have seen enough to assure me, that in at least fifteen Battalions, the option of challenge is not generally allowed; and indeed when we know that there "*are more opinions than one*" upon this very point, it is natural to suppose that the practice is different in different Corps.

Next, as to what CENTURION says, regarding my observations on the want of formality at Inferior Courts Martial. I never said that the *established* forms were broken through;—it was the *forms themselves*, that I maintained did not possess sufficient dignity, and so I still maintain. The Oath is not in my opinion, the most binding of all those in use among the Natives, nor is the mode of administering it by any means so awful and efficacious as others which they use among themselves, and I doubt whether more than two Native Officers in a whole Battalion can explain the Oath after they have repeated it; and I further know, that very few Natives indeed comprehend the witnesses' Oath as our Interpreters administer it. I have heard a Native Officer disclose his own vote, and I have heard one confess, that he adjudged three times the number of lashes to a Prisoner, which he thought the crime deserved, merely because the other members had, in his opinion, given too little; and can it be supposed, that if such Officers understood the Oath they had taken, they would have acted in such open defiance of it? They repeat it, too, after the Interpreter, just in the mechanical inattentive manner I have described, and in fact the whole Proceedings will, I fear, be found pretty nearly to coincide with my description of them.

But this does not cast a grave censure on any European Officer, as CENTURION (but not with his usual candour or correctness) has asserted; because the established forms are not broken through; but no Officer that ever lived, could make a man pay more attention to his Oath than what such person pleased himself, nor is it the fault of the Superintending Officer if those forms be defective.

What CENTURION terms my objection to the translation of the Articles of War is, that I conceived they were (like the oath) too elegantly and correctly translated, having all our repetitions &c. thrown literally into the Native tongue, without its own *idion* being sufficiently attended to; if CENTURION will name any Corps in the Service of which one half of the men will understand the Interpreter when reading the translated Articles of War, in all respects as fully as a British Soldier understands the

original, I shall concede this point to him at once. With regard to the Interpreters, I made an assertion which I have since found no cause to retract, and if any of that body should say, "Do you mean me?" I should reply "certainly not, if you can do what I have said an Interpreter our cannot." My whole argument regarding these Courts Martial was used to prove the incapability of our Native Officers to sit as Judges at all, except in very trifling matters, and I challenge CENTURION to prove, that they are fit, or even fitter than I have represented them, to fill such high and responsible situations.

I am in no sort of fear, that in his promised comment upon my other observations regarding Native Officers, he will be able to overturn my arguments, but I beg he will observe, that I have made several exceptions: and that I have at different times had opportunities of seeing Native Officers belonging to half the Corps in the Army upon some sort of duty or other. As I do not believe I shall enter into any more controversies regarding the subjects of my Letter to Lord Hastings (but leave them to be freely canvassed by all concerned), I shall, in conclusion, make a few observations which I trust all future Commentators will bear in mind, particularly CENTURION, for whose character and good opinion I entertain a very high regard. Without stopping to enquire whether the motto he has chosen be applied to me or not (if it be, I must plead guilty in company with all men) I cannot refrain from observing an insinuation, contained in the exordium to his remarks, that I was not much under the influence of Philanthropy, when I penned the Letter signed A FRIEND TO THE ARMY, which he compares, in point of the actuating sentiment that pervaded me, with another so totally different from it, in the nature of the subject treated of, that the unfairness of the comparison is indeed too glaring to remain unnoticed, and must I think have ere this, struck CENTURION himself. However, since the comparison has been made, and my motives and feelings on the occasion thereby called in question, I shall say a few words by way of shewing, that in as far as credit is given to me for the purity of those motives which dictated the Letter on the Military Fund, the same should not be denied to me as the Writer of the Letter to the Marquis of Hastings. My intention in writing this last, was expressly to ameliorate a system in which a vast number of individuals were concerned, and by some parts of which many were liable to be unjustly punished. In our mode of administering justice, (I allude to Native Courts Martial), I perceived some points which appeared to me altogether subversive of real justice, and others which I considered a bar to its pure administration. It matters not, with respect to my motives, whether I saw these points correctly or not; nay, let it be supposed they were imaginary, still I noticed them under the impression that they did exist to the full extent mentioned; and surely the attempt to remove them was not an unworthy attempt, nor the reproaching them uncharitable.

I confess there is an appearance of forwardness in a young Officer's censuring customs which his seniors have passed over in silence, and this reflection was one of several reasons which induced me to write anonymously; my doing which, indeed, is, confirmation strong that I had no motive connected with personal vanity, for making known my sentiments on these matters, nor any other than the hope of benefiting the Army. If I spoke severely upon certain subjects, it was only what I felt, and as long as my opinions remain unchanged, I shall never express them more mildly: for I consider the effects alluded to injurious to the Sepoys, and I therefore dislike them. Such was the spirit with which I wrote that Letter, and I feel neither shame nor sorrow in avowing it; if it spring from a false and misguided zeal, I trust to time and experience to cool and correct it; but if on the contrary, it be founded on a real interest in the welfare of the Bengal Army, I sincerely trust it may never be eradicated.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c

A FRIEND TO THE ARMY.

Calcutta, Nov. 4, 1819.

* Instead of accusing the European Officers of disregarding the regular forms, I have said, that I have known them (as I often have) reprimand the Native Officers for their gross negligence and inattention at Courts Martial. What more can a Superintending Officer do? In mentioning the causes of this inattention, I have thrown the blame entirely, and very justly, on the Native Officers.

Official Document.

Court at Carlton House, May 28, 1819.

Present:—His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent in Council.

Whereas by an Act, passed in the fifty-seventh year of His present Majesty, intitled "An Act to continue and extend the provisions of an Act of His present Majesty, for regulating the Trade and Commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope, until the fifth day of July one thousand eight hundred and twenty; and also for regulating the trade of the Island of Mauritius;" His Majesty is authorised, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by any Order or Orders to be issued from time to time, to give such directions, and to make such regulations touching the Trade and Commerce to and from all islands, colonies, or places, and the territories and dependencies thereof, to His Majesty belonging or in His possession, in Africa or Asia to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope (excepting only the possessions of the East India Company), as to His Majesty, in Council, shall appear

most expedient and salutary, any thing contained in an Act, passed in the twelfth year of the reign of His Majesty King Charles the Second, intitled "An Act for the encouraging and increasing of Shipping and Navigation," or in an Act, passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of His Majesty King William the Third, intitled "An Act for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in the Plantations on Trade," or any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in force, relating to His Majesty's colonies and plantation, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage or custom to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding; His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, and by and with the advice of His Majesty's Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date of this present order, British vessels arriving at any port of the Island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, from any country in amity with His Majesty, laden with any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such country (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool of foreign manufacture), shall be permitted to enter and land their cargoes, and dispose of the same in the said ports, subject to such duties as may be payable thereon.

And it is further ordered, that every such British vessel, arriving as aforesaid, shall be permitted to export to any such foreign country in amity with His Majesty, a cargo consisting of any articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the Island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of such duties as may be payable thereon.

And it is hereby further ordered, that vessels belonging to the subjects of any foreign state in amity with His Majesty, which foreign state shall allow British vessels to carry on the trade as aforesaid between the ports of such state and the island of Mauritius, on the same terms as in vessels of such foreign state, shall be permitted in like manner to import into the ports of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, from any port of the country to which such vessel shall belong, any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such country (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool of foreign manufacture), and to dispose of the same in the ports of the said island and its dependencies, on payment of the same duties as shall be payable on the like articles when imported from such foreign ports in British vessels; and that every such foreign vessel shall be permitted to export a cargo consisting of any articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of the same duties as shall be payable on similar articles when exported to such foreign ports in British vessels.

It is, however, hereby further ordered and declared, that no foreign vessel, allowed by the terms of this order to export a cargo from the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, shall be permitted to export such cargo to any other place than a port or place belonging to the state or power to which the vessel itself shall belong.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

JAMES BULLER.

Statement of Cotton Wool.

Statement of Cotton-Wool Imported into Great Britain in 1819, compared with the same period in 1818; and Notes as to Consumption, Importation, and Present Stock.—From a London Price Current of July 6, 1819.

	London.	Liverpool.	Glasgow.	Total.
Imported to the 31st of May, 1819.	75473	205571	25515	310559
Imported in June.				
From Portugal and Brazil,	7886	7886	.....	7886
From the East Indies,	9717	859	.....	10576
From North America,	164	20153	2092	21109
From the West India Islands,	196	373	102	671
From Demerara, and Berbice,	21	2441	2762	2463
From Smyrna,	20	.....	.....	20
	88811	246297	31471	366579

Total Imports in the same period last year,

Increase in 1819,

NOTE.—The total Import of the year 1818, into Great Britain, was 667460 bags, and the whole quantity used for home consumption 431564, besides 68009 bags Exported. The average Import of Cotton Wool into Great Britain for 5 years, ended 31st December 1818, was 434315 bags.

STOCK.

Adding the Stock in Great Britain on the 31st of December 1818, for which vide Supplement to this work,

To the Imports since,

And deducting therefrom the quantity used for home consumption in 1819, ended the 30th June, at the rate of 8107 bags per week, being the average of last year,

The residue would be the Stock of Cotton-Wool on hand in Great Britain, June 30, 1819, viz.

Ditto last year at the same time,

Government Orders.

General Orders, by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Calcutta, October 26, 1819.

The Most Noble the Commander in Chief in India is pleased to make the following promotion, until the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, shall be made known.

22d Light Dragoons.

Cornet E. I. Mildmay to be Lieutenant without purchase, vice Eden, promoted in the 53d Foot, 2d October, 1819.

Cornet George Paribry to be Lieutenant without purchase, vice Rogers, deceased, 3d October, 1819.

Head-quarters, Calcutta, October 29, 1819.

The undermentioned Officers have received the Most Noble the Commander in Chief's leave of absence, for the reasons assigned.

17th Foot—Assistant Surgeon Ardley, for 2 years, to proceed to Europe, for the recovery of his health.

Ditto—Assistant Surgeon Foote, for 6 months, to proceed to Sea, on Sick Certificate.

40th Foot—Captain Wallis, for 18 months, to proceed to Europe, on his private affairs.

The Leave of Absence granted by His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Hialop, to the undermentioned Officers, is confirmed:

Royal Scots—Lieutenant Eddington, for 2 years, to proceed to Europe, for the recovery of his health.

34th Foot—Captain Sherer, from 5th December, 1818, to 4th February, 1820, in extension, on his private affairs.

89th Foot—Lieutenant Stewart, for 3 months, to proceed to Bombay, on Sick Certificate.

Lieutenant Boys of the 11th Dragoons will proceed from Berhampore, in charge of the details for His Majesty's Regiments destined for the upper Provinces, as announced in the General Orders of the 22d and 25th instant, (Nos. 1841 and 1843) instead of Lieutenant Brannan of the 14th Foot, who has Leave of Absence until the 24th Proximo.

Lieutenant Mahon, of the 46th Regiment, is directed to do duty with the details of H. M. Troops, now at Fort William, belonging to Corps serving on the Madras Establishment, and with which he will proceed to that Presidency.

Lieutenant Mahon will accordingly place himself under the orders of the Acting Brigade Major of King's Troops.

Head-quarters, Calcutta, November 1, 1819.

The following appointments are announced on the Staff of His Excellency Lieutenant General the Hon'ble Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B.
Brevet Lieut. Colonel Blair, 87th Foot, and Brevet Major Jackson, 6th Dragoon Guards, to be Aides-de-Camp.

Head-quarters, Calcutta, November 2, 1819.

Captain Sir John Gordon, Bart. 53d Foot, Brigade Major to the King's Troops, on the Madras Establishment, is directed to proceed to Hyderabad, via Fort St. George, with all convenient expedition, and upon his arrival there, he will place himself at the disposal of the British Resident at the Court of his Highness the Nizam.

Captain J. D. Carroll, of H. M. 69th Regiment, is appointed Brigade Major to the King's Troops on the Madras Establishment, vice Captain Sir J. Gordon, and that Officer will take charge of the situation from the date of his Predecessor's departure from Fort St. George for Hyderabad.

Captain Carroll, upon his arrival at Madras, will report himself to his Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Hialop, Bart. and G. C. B.

The following appointment is announced on the Staff of his Excellency Lieutenant General the Honorable Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B.

Brevet Lieutenant Col. Blair, 87th Foot, to be Military Secretary.

By Order of the Most Noble the Commander in Chief.

THOS. McMAHON, Col. A. G.

BOMBAY.

Division Orders, by Brigadier General Smith, C. B. Serapor Cantonments, September 29, 1819.

"Brigadier General Smith has had frequent occasions of witnessing the good conduct of the Light Battalion; and their valuable services during the late campaign shewed the perfection and utility to which the Native troops of this Presidency could be brought under intelligent officers as Light Infantry.

It is with very great regret, that the Commanding Officer has found it expedient to break up this battalion.

He desires to express to Captain Montresor the perfect satisfaction he has given him in conducting the command of this battalion, and begs that officer will accept and communicate his best thanks to the whole of the Light Companies for soldier like conduct while they have been embodied together.

(Signed) S. HALLIFAX, Dept. Adt. General.

Printed at the Union Press, in Garstins' Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

At the Cathedral, on the 1st instant, by the Reverend J. Parson, Mr. Thomas Stout, a Private of His Majesty's 11th Light Dragoons, to Miss Susannah Fox.

At Bombay, on the 12th of October, Andrew Nesbit Ridwell, Esq. Lieutenant in the Military Service of the Honorable East India Company, on their Bombay Establishment, to Miss Mary Anne Edwards, youngest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Edwards, of His Majesty's 73rd Regiment.

BIRTHS.

At the Presidency, on the 3rd instant, the Lady of James Atkinson, Esq. of a Daughter.

On the 5th instant, Mrs. Lawrence D'Souza, of a Daughter.

At Howrah, on the 4th instant, Mrs. Captain Wise, of a Daughter.

On the 2nd instant, Mrs. J. U. Sheriff, of a Son.

At Colombo, on the 2nd ultimo, the Lady of Captain Clether, 1st Ceylon Light Infantry, of a Son.

At Batterotie, on the 8th of September, the Lady of the Reverend Mr. Meigs, Missionary, of a Daughter.

At Cotyne, Travancore, on the 4th ultimo, Mrs. Fenn, of a Son.

DEATHS.

At Mooltai, where he had been upon command, about 27 miles from the Camp at Teoharr, in Baitool, on the 28th of September, Lieut. W. D. Monsell, at the early age of 20 years.

Lieut. Monsell was the eldest son of Thomas Monsell, Esq. of Belleisle in the county of Tipperary, Barrister at Law, and assistant Barrister for the county of Fermanagh in the Kingdom of Ireland, and Grandson to the celebrated East India Director, and M. P. for Barnstaple, the late William Devaynes, Esq. of Dover Street, London.

At Bhangulpore, on the 23rd of October, John Battye, Esq. of the Civil Service. It may be said with truth that he was an honest man, and his death will be regretted by all who knew him.

At Bankipore, on the 29th ultimo, the infant son of William Lambert, Esq. of the Honorable Company's Civil Service, aged 2 months and 3 days.

At Shillpore, near Backergunge, on the 13th ultimo, Mr. Joseph D'Silva, son of Mr. Domingo D'Silva, aged 36 years.

At Wallajahbad, on the 28th of September, of dysentery, Ensign William Tottenham, of His Majesty's Royal Scots, most deeply and justly regretted by all his Brother Officers.

At Chittledroog, on the 8th ultimo, Frances Ann, only child of Captain J. J. A. Willows, 2nd Battalion 16th Regiment N. I. aged 1 year and 10 months. By this fatal event the disconsolate parents are bereaved of two children in the short space of 19 days.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVAL.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Nov. 4	Barbara	Amercn.	B. Turner	Boston	June 22

CALCUTTA DEPARTURE.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Nov. 2	Adventure	British	J. Robson	Penang

MADRAS DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Oct. 14	Tottenham	British	Davey	London
14	Albion	British	Weller	Calcutta
14	Dotterell	British	Hanwell	Pondicherry
17	Elizabeth	British	Oatler	London

CEYLON ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Sept. 25	Helen	British	D. Seton	Galle	—
25	Rebec	Arab	Bitchan	Maldieu	—

Nautical Notices.

The Providence, whilst at Madras, parted from her anchors on the 15th of October, and was blown out of the roads. She returned again on the 17th, and sailed for Bombay. The Wasp likewise ran on shore from some unaccountable accident on the 15th. She grounded to the Northward of Black-Town, off Royapoor, ran, and was quickly knocked to pieces.

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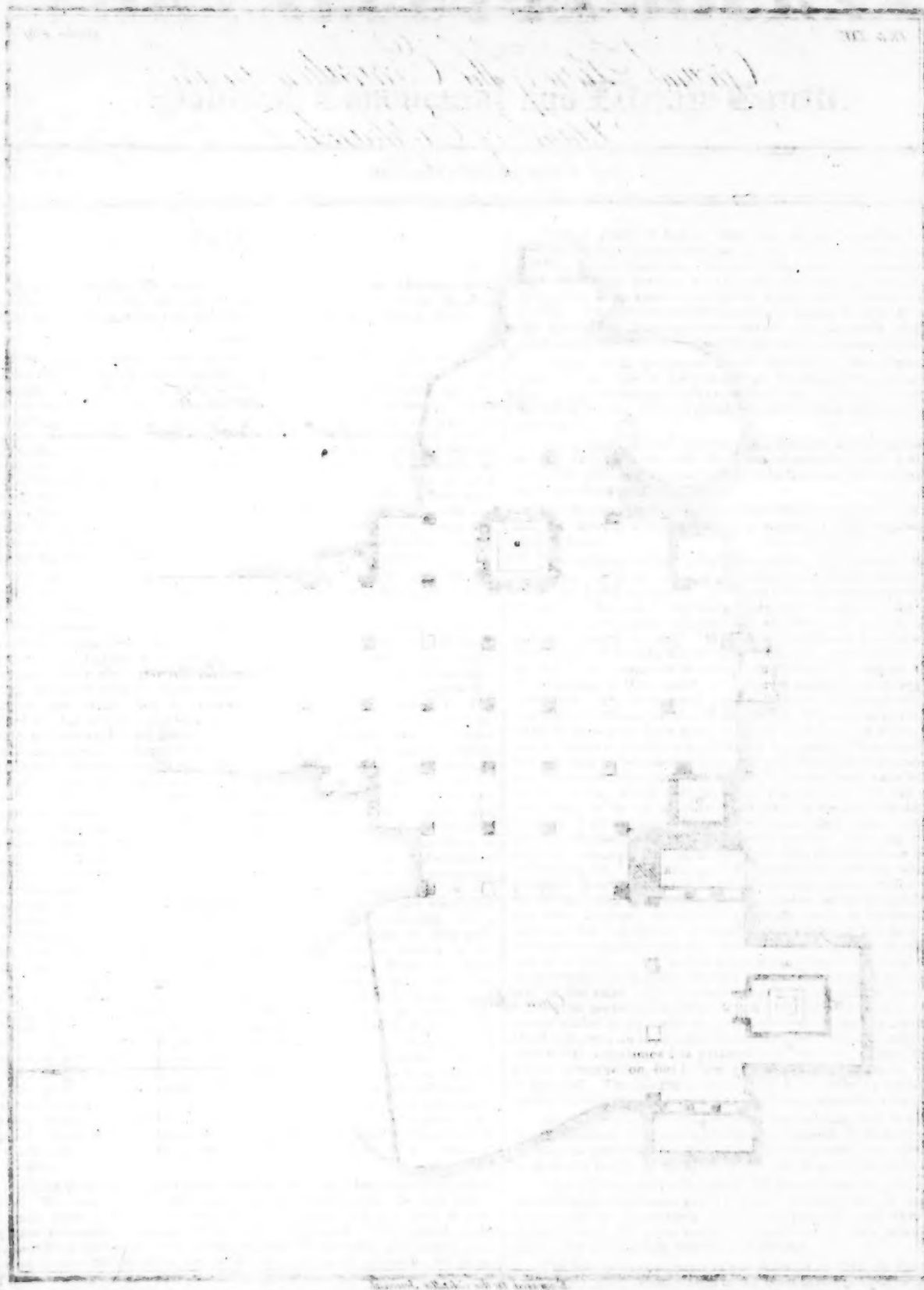
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Ground Plan of the Excavation in the Island of Elephanta

